

dam where the spill is where there is danger of boats getting swamped, and so it is something that we need to look forward and see what happens.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR).

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, spring is upon us, a season that is important to several of Kentucky's signature industries. Not only does spring signify horse racing and the Kentucky Derby, but it also marks the beginning of the adventure and outdoor tourism season as well.

Tourism is an \$11.7 billion signature industry in my State, employing over 166,000 Kentuckians and accounting for 1 in 10 jobs across the Commonwealth. A major part of Kentucky tourism stems from one of America's favorite pastimes—fishing.

In my district, the Kentucky River is enjoyed by many, many, as it stretches from the Daniel Boone National Forest and meanders through horse farms in the central Bluegrass, specifically in Woodford and Franklin Counties.

Fishermen especially enjoy fishing in the Kentucky River's tailwaters surrounding locks and dams, areas notorious for having an abundance of fish. Unfortunately, the Army Corps of Engineers has decided to prohibit tailwater fishing in a sister river just south of my district, the Cumberland River, where many of my constituents travel to engage in their favorite pastime.

This is yet another example of government overreach, where this time the government is telling us how to fish in water systems that have been safely utilized for generations. We must not allow the Corps to set a precedent for regulating how Kentuckians and Americans alike spend their time outdoors.

As our fragile economy continues to recover, my constituents tell me that they plan on sticking closer to home to recreate this spring and summer. Overregulation of fishing is a deterrent to family time and harms our local businesses that depend on the revenue from seasonal recreation and tourism.

I ask my colleagues to join me in support of the Freedom to Fish Act, which places a 2-year moratorium on the Corps' plan to restrict access to tailwaters in the Cumberland River.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SHUSTER. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. BARR. This will allow us time to implement a permanent plan to halt Army Corps from setting a precedent of restricting access to any tailwaters going forward.

I'm an original cosponsor of this legislation—and I applaud the leadership of Mr. WHITFIELD, my colleague from Kentucky—and that does exactly this: protect fishermen in rural economies and Americans' right to choose how they recreate.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it's now a great pleasure for me to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Frog Jump, Tennessee (Mr. FINCHER).

Mr. FINCHER. Thank you, Mr. Chair—man, for yielding.

I have had the privilege of fishing actually on the Cumberland River at Barkley Dam. My grandfather took me many times to fish there. And how this would work, and why it's such a good fishing spot is, when they would release the water from the top of the dam and when it would come under and come in the back of the dam, the waters would roll up, and the big fish that we talk about would roll up off the bottom, and that's why the fishing is so good.

And it's like we don't have enough things to do in Washington that we're dealing with this issue today. I want to thank Mr. WHITFIELD for bringing this up, but commonsense solutions to problems are what we should be talking about. And the Corps, in many respects, they do good work, but bringing this up, stopping the fishing from occurring at the dams and on the rivers, the Cumberland River in specific, is ridiculous.

We need to get down to the business of America—let's let people fish where they've always fished, like my grandfather took me to Barkley Dam over and over and over, time and time again—and get to the real issues.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation today, and let's give the power back to the people—commonsense solutions for real problems.

□ 1410

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, in closing, once again, I just want to applaud our leadership for bringing this legislation to the floor today. As I said earlier, this is an excellent opportunity, excellent example for Congress to exercise our constitutional authority over these Federal agencies.

With that, I would urge all my colleagues to join in supporting this important legislation, S. 982, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 982.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR UNVEILING OF STATUE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 16) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the unveiling of a statue of Frederick Douglass.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 16

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR THE UNVEILING OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS STATUE.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used for an event on June 19, 2013, to unveil a statue of Frederick Douglass.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the event described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 16, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the unveiling of a statue of Frederick Douglass, a great abolitionist. Frederick Douglass is a pivotal figure in American history who had an unyielding dedication to equal rights, the abolition of slavery, and the enhancement of women's suffrage. His brave actions and compelling writings inspired and forever changed this grateful Nation.

Born into slavery, Frederick Douglass escaped to New York in 1838 disguised as a free uniformed sailor. Upon achieving his own freedom, he quickly and unwaveringly turned his life's mission to seeking freedom, justice, and equality for all. Frederick Douglass inspired in African Americans the fundamental that one's achievement cannot be limited by one's color and that the American Dream is within reach for all Americans, regardless of race.

Over a century has passed since his death, and yet his contribution to American society is very much alive today. His tireless dedication, brilliant words, and inclusive vision of humanity continue to inspire people of all races. In considering the remarkable achievements of Frederick Douglass and his contributions to our rich history, his presence within the United States Capitol will honor this institution and serve as endearing testimony to this Nation's struggle for freedom and for equality.

I want to thank the Senator from the State of New York, Mr. SCHUMER, for

introducing this concurrent resolution, as well as my colleague, Ms. NORTON from the District of Columbia, for her work on this, and I would certainly urge my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. I rise in strong support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 16.

I would like to begin by thanking Chairman MILLER for her help in bringing this resolution to the floor. I also thank Ranking Member BRADY for his longstanding commitment to placing a District of Columbia statue in the United States Capitol. When he chaired the committee, it approved my bill that would have given the District two statues in the Capitol, the usual practice. But, we are pleased to have our first statue and are grateful to the House leadership for permitting this bill on the floor today. We especially thank Senators SCHUMER and DURBIN for their help in getting this resolution, as well as the bill authorizing the placement of the Douglass statue in the Capitol, passed in the Senate. The District of Columbia has no Senators so we're fortunate we have distinguished allies like Senators SCHUMER and DURBIN.

Like the residents of the 50 States, the residents of the District of Columbia have fought and died in all our Nation's wars and have always paid Federal income taxes. Unlike the residents of the 50 States, however, District of Columbia residents are still fighting for their equal rights as American citizens. Since 2002, one component of that fight has been to have statues representing the District of Columbia placed in the Capitol, like the States, which fulfill every obligation of citizenship, as the District does.

D.C. residents chose Douglass to represent them in the Capitol not only because he is one of the great international icons of human and civil rights; but for us, Douglass is especially important because he was not content to rest on his historic national achievements alone. He knew where he lived and was deeply involved in the civic and political affairs of the District of Columbia.

Douglass, a strong Republican, served as Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia, as United States Marshal here, as a member of the D.C. Council—its upper chamber then—appointed by the Republican president at the time, Ulysses S. Grant. Douglass was also a member of the Board of Trustees of Howard University for 24 years. Douglass made his home in the Anacostia neighborhood of southeast Washington, which is now the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, administered by the National Park Service.

In choosing Douglass, it was important to our residents that Douglass also dedicated himself to securing self-government and voting rights for the residents of the District of Columbia. Many Americans may not know that D.C. residents have only rarely had

even nonvoting representation in the Congress, or a local government, and even today have no vote on the floor of the House and no Senators, although our residents pay Federal income taxes like everybody else and fight in all the Nation's wars like everybody else. The city had both home rule and a delegate for a brief period during Reconstruction and then was without any home rule government or any representation in the Congress for over 100 years, until the 1970s.

In his autobiography, "The Life and Times of Frederick Douglass," Douglass commented on the unequal political status of his hometown, the District of Columbia, and of its residents. Most of what Douglass wrote in the 19th century holds true today.

I am quoting Douglass from his autobiography:

These people are outside of the United States. They occupy neutral ground and have no political existence. They have neither voice nor vote in all the practical politics of the United States. They are hardly to be called citizens of the United States. Practically, they are aliens, not citizens but subjects. The District of Columbia is the one spot where there is no government for the people, of the people, and by the people. Its citizens submit to rulers whom they have had no choice in selecting. They obey laws which they had no voice in making. They have plenty of taxation but no representation.

□ 1420

In the great questions of politics in the country they can march with neither army, but are relegated to the position of neutrals. I have nothing to say in favor of this anomalous condition of the people of the District of Columbia, and hardly think that it ought to be or will be much longer. Mr. Douglass did not mince his words.

The Douglass statue in our Capitol will recognize the universality of his dedication to human rights and democratic rights. His statue in the Capitol will remind District of Columbia residents that they, too, will partake of these values one day. His statue will offer the same pride that other citizens of our country experience when they come to the Capitol and see memorials that commemorate the efforts of their residents and their significant contributions. And the Douglass statue offers other Americans the opportunity to see the residents of their Nation's Capital honored as well in their Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, again I want to thank my colleague from the District of Columbia for her very eloquent words. We are all looking forward to the unveiling of the statue of this remarkable American that is such a critical component of our proud history.

With that, I would urge all of my colleagues to support this Senate concurrent resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 16.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer the resolution previously noticed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House of Representatives shall not consider H.R. 3, the 'Northern Route Approval Act' because: (1) it violates Rule XXI of the House, and (2) it affects the dignity and integrity of the proceedings of the House since it is unconstitutional.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from Florida wish to present argument on the parliamentary question whether the resolution presents a question of the privileges of the House?

Mr. GRAYSON. Yes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for that purpose.

Mr. GRAYSON. I rise today to address H.R. 3, the Northern Route Approval Act, and my resolution raising a question of privilege regarding the matter.

Please note that this is a privileged motion and therefore outside the scope of the Rules Committee's jurisdiction regarding "the order of business of the House" under rule X. Rather, this is a question of privilege "affecting the rights of the House collectively, its safety, dignity, and the integrity of its proceedings" pursuant to rule IX. It is not invoked to "effect a change in the rules or their interpretation" as prescribed by House Rules and Manual at page 420.

Consideration of this bill exceeds "the rights of the House collectively" and brings into question the "dignity and the integrity of the proceedings" of the House of Representatives under House rule IX because, first, it is unconstitutional, and second, it is an earmark.

I presented this matter to the full House in H. Res. 225 as a question of privilege last night, and I noticed the question immediately following the only vote series of the day.

Mr. Speaker, pursuant to rule IX of the House you must now make your determination as to whether or not this is an appropriate "question of privilege" and hold a vote on the resolution offered before the House. Before that happens, I would like to address the two claims I have made against the bill